

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SINGAP 00282 201153Z
ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 IO-13
AID-05 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 ITC-01 /081 W
-----201708Z 113282 /43

R 201109Z JAN 77
FM AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6955
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY JAKARTA
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMEMBASSY TOKYO
CINCPAC

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, SN, RP, ASEAN
SUBJ: MARCOS-LEE PRESS CONFERENCE

REF: MANILA 939

1. JANUARY 20 STRAITS TIMES (ST) GAVE EXTENSIVE COVERAGE TO
PRONOUNCEMENTS OF SINGAPORE AND PHILIPPINE LEADERS AT JOINT
PRESS CONFERENCE IN BAGUIO ON JANUARY 19 (REFTEL). POSITIVE
REFERENCE TO ASEAN/USG CONSULTATIONS IN PRESS STATEMENT SHOULD
BE REASSURING TO THOSE LOCAL CIRCLES EXPRESSING CONSTERNATION
PRIOR TO LEE'S DEPARTURE FROM SINGAPORE REGARDING REPORTED
GOP UNWILLINGNESS TO PARTICIPATE IN SUCH A DIALOGUE BECAUSE OF
GOP REACTION TO DOS HUMAN RIGHTS REPORT. PRESS STATEMENT,
QUOTED IN PART IN ST ARTICLE, ATTRIBUTED TO MARCOS AND LEE
"THE HOPE THAT THE COUNTRIES NOW COOPERATING WITH ASEAN INTENSIFY
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SUCH MUTUALLY BENEFICIAL RELATIONS AS THIS COULD CONTRIBUTE
TO THE STABILITY AND PEACE OF THE REGION. THE TWO LEADERS
SUPPORTED THE EARLY ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ECONOMIC DIALOGUE
BETWEEN ASEAN AND THE UNITED STATES AND THE EXPANSION OF AN
ECONOMIC DIALOGUE BETWEEN ASEAN AND JAPAN".

2. (COMMENT: THIS FORMULATION SEEMS TO COMMIT THE GOP TO DO

NOTHING THAT WOULD IMPEDE PROGRESS OF TALKS, PRELIMINARY TO FORMAL ASEAN/USG CONSULTATIONS, RECENTLY INAUGURATED IN MANILA. IN VIEW OF THE APPARENTLY REAL FEARS WHICH SOME IN SINGAPORE RECENTLY HAD ON THIS POINT, HOWEVER, IT WOULD BE INTERESTING TO LEARN WHETHER THIS OUTCOME WAS EVER IN DOUBT OR WHETHER IT CAME ABOUT THROUGH A SUCCESSFUL APPLICATION OF LEE'S PERSUASIVE POWERS. END COMMENT).

3. ACCORDING TO LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE, MARCOS AND LEE AGREED TO "IMPLEMENT" AN ACROSS-THE-BOARD 10 PCT TARIFF REDUCTION ON GOODS TRADED BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. WHILE THEY APPARENTLY EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT THIS WOULD ONLY BE THE FIRST SUCH STEP, THERE WAS NO SPECIFIC REFERENCE MADE TO THE PROPOSAL REPORTED IN PARA 4, REFTEL FOR A 10 PCT ACROSS-THE-BOARD REDUCTION IN "INTER-ASEAN TARIFFS".

4. PRESS STATEMENT ALSO BOOSTED AN EARLY ASEAN APPROACH TO THE USG TO SEEK PRESERVATION OF PRESENT SYSTEM OF TAX DEFERRALS FOR AMERICAN INVESTMENTS IN THE REGION. LEE HAS BEEN PUSHING THIS PARTICULAR HOBBYHORSE FOR SOME TIME NOW AND PHRASING OF STATEMENT LEADS US TO WONDER WHETHER WE MIGHT NOT BE HEARING FROM ASEAN ON THIS SPECIFIC ISSUE EVEN PRIOR TO THE INCEPTION OF FORMAL CONSULTATIONS. HOLDRIDGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 20-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Expiration:
Film Number: D770021-1090
Format: TEL
From: SINGAPORE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770132/aaaabcei.tel
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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TAGS: PFOR, ECIN, SN, RP, JA, ASEAN, (LEE KUAN YEW), (MARCOS, FERDINAND)
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